

ANARCHIST LABOR BULLETIN

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Anarchist Labor Network
Number 17 February \$1.00



Hunger Strike At Southwest Ohio Correctional Facility

Dear Comrades:

I hope that you all had a happy holiday. 1990 marks the 200 year history of prisons in Amerikkka. As such, we have decided to start the year off right. I am writing this from the boxcar sensory deprivation cell, where my captors put me before Christmas so I could appreciate the accommodations.

Due to the increased repression

here, murders and beatings of our comrades by guards, the fact that the control unit remains open and we are subjected to long-term isolation, and the recent railroad job done on me, among other legitimate reasons, we have decided to repeat the actions of our IRA comrades in H Block. Since armed struggle is not feasible in this

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WORKERS CONTROL IN AUSTRALIA

We received the following urgent communique from the IWA Secretariat the day after the last issue of the ALB went to press.

URGENT:

To all rebel workers. We ask for your immediate support and action for the tram workers of Melbourne.

On January 1st the Victorian Government demanded that tram workers sign a contract accepting a new ticket system that will cost many of them their jobs. They refused and decided to run the trams themselves and not sell tickets. On the first day of 1990 there was *workers control* of the tram system.

The public transport corporation and the government could not tolerate this and turned off the electricity to the system—completely shutting it down. But before they could do this the tram workers ran all the trams into the center of Melbourne. 10 days

later they are still sitting there.

The workers then occupied all their depots and over the last week have set up committees to coordinate (food, money, media, security, etc). Support Groups of passengers are assisting their local depots so the workers can continue to resist the governments pressure. This dispute is being

run by the workers themselves. They are making direct links with other workers. If we can win it will be an important victory.

The latest word we have is that the workers have now returned to work, but the struggle continues.

IWW VOTES TO AFFILIATE WITH THE IWA

As the result of a recent referendum, the membership of the Industrial Workers of the World has voted for affiliation with the International Workers Association, the anarcho-syndicalist international. What this in effect means is that the IWW and the WSA (the existing U.S. Section of the IWA) will begin comradely discussions, the results of which will hopefully be the creation of a strengthened U.S. Section of the International.

One current proposal being dis-

cussed is for the creation of a third formation, a revolutionary unionist confederation of some sort, to which both the WSA and the IWW could affiliate (as well as any other like-minded revolutionary unionist group or individual) and which would then become the U.S. Section of the IWA. This is the proposal which I personally support. It would open up the section to broader membership, allowing members to enjoy

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section of the prison, we have decided to use a non-violent form of resistance, putting only our own lives on the line. Starting on February 14th, 1990, Sudun Swafford, Michael Day and myself-the only prisoners in the control unit-will begin a death fast. Once we spread the word, others will join in.

I am writing to you to spread the word. As you may know, death fasts are not effective without a broad base of support on the outside. Without that support the prisoncrats will allow us to die without anyone knowing the causes or reasons and without any pressure being applied on them by publicity. I ask you all to write letters and send telegrams of protest, to use the media to publicize our fast, and to make daily phone calls to the warden and director checking on our physical and mental well-being and demanding that our conditions be met. We are in the process of drafting a formal communique which will follow, but our main demands are these:

1. Transfers out of state.
2. Shut down the control unit (J1-Supermax)

3. Stop Unit Management and behavior modification.

4. Allow isolation prisoners all their personal property, literature & contact visits with family.

5. Stop the routine beatings, macings and firehousing of prisoners by guards.

6. Prosecute all guards who beat and murder prisoners.

7. Provide adequate medical treatment.

8. Provide due process in placement and release from isolation.

9. Elevate the pay scale for prisoner-workers. A fair days pay for a fair days work.

10. Abolition of the death penalty.

11. Lower the periods of incarceration/sentencing laws.

12. Form a group of private, unbiased citizens to monitor human rights violations in prisons.

These are just some of our demands. If you will support us, please circulate the news of our fast and contact our local outside networkers whose names and numbers are listed below.

All of our comrades here send our revolutionary respects to all of you. Do not let us die in vain.

In solidarity,
John Perotti

Send letters of support and details of protest actions to:

IWW General Defense Committee
P.O. BOX 26381

Trotwood, OH 45426

or phone: Rube Slaten (513) 475-2653
Linda Leisure (614) 864-2684

Send letters/telegrams of protest to:

Warden Terry L. Morris
S. Ohio Correctional Facility
P.O. BOX 45699

Lucasville, OH. 45699-001
(614) 259-5544

George Wilson
Dept. of Rehabilitation and
Correction

1050 Freeway Drive.
Columbus, OH. 43229
(614) 466-6190

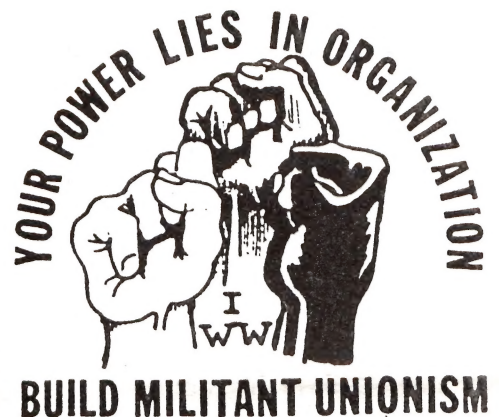
STRIKE ACTION IN 1989

In the United States, 1989 saw major strikes in the transportation, communications and mining industries. In each case massive support was mobilized by organized labor to offset government support of capitalist interests. But despite this support, in each instance the leadership of the business unions involved stopped far short of anything even remotely resembling a true victory. This fear of pursuing real confrontation with the capitalist class resulted in negotiated settlements (for the UMW and CWA/IBEW) that allowed union bureaucrats to proclaim "victory" while at the same time delivering profitable concessions to the capitalists. In addition, the hacks of the AFL-CIO were able to convince the leadership of the UMW to drag their membership into a federation best known for its willingness to sell-out the interests of the working class.

The strikes fought in 1989 represented a resurgence in the class war. The most vivid example was the Pitt-

son Coal strike in Virginia. A militant rank and file nearly dragged the UMW's bureaucrats (kicking and screaming to be sure) into something truly revolutionary. A wave of wild-cat strikes over the summer had the potential to develop into something far bigger, but in the end, with threats and denunciations, it was defused and extinguished by the UMW leaders. The agreement finally reached between the United Mine Workers and Pittston Coal Company amounted to a little less than status quo (with the bureaucrats surrendering certain work rule changes such as 24hr operation and Sunday work) and the UMW president Richard Trumka (Mr. "class war" himself) dismissing his previous incendiary rhetoric and proclaiming a New Era of prosperity for Pittston Coal and (by the trickle-down theory) the UMW membership.

The strike by Communications Workers of America and the Interna-



tional Brotherhood of Electrical Workers against the "baby Bells" was likewise marked by the emergence of a militant rank and file. In most cases the capitalists folded in the face of workers solidarity and determination, but on the East Coast the NYNEX company hired scab labor and made every attempt to break the strike. But the CWA and IBEW rank and file held their ground, even after one of their members was murdered by a scab. In the end, the union bureaucrats "declared victory" and ended the strike. The "victory" cost the workers 50% of their wage in-

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creases and delivered no gains of any kind.

The strike of Machinists, Pilots and Flight Attendants against Eastern Airlines and Texas union-buster Frank Lorenzo has gone even worse. Despite a valiant struggle, first the flight attendants and pilots surrendered, showing up at Frank Lorenzo's doorstep hat-in-hand and asking for their old jobs back. However, most of their jobs had been given to scabs. The few who were rehired took pay cuts of up to 50 and 60 percent. The machinists are still holding on, if only because they appear to have nothing left to lose. They are at the mercy of the capitalist courts now, the Federal bankruptcy court in particular. Their ability to snatch victory from jaws of such an arch-parasite as Frank Lorenzo will be determined by how willing they are to stay within the boundaries of the law. In any case, direct action by the rank and file, by-passing the conservative politicians of the union bureaucracy, is the only way the strike can be won. It is the only way any strike can truly be won.

As anarchist unionists, we have never seen clearer illustrations of the

wrong-headedness of the top-down business unions. We appeal to all rank and file members of such formations to recognize this fact: you cannot negotiate in good faith with criminals and liars. We encourage all members of existing business unions to form dissident caucuses within those unions (as has already begun in the UAW) for the stated purpose of reconstituting those unions as fighting formations of the working class. Only by removing the highly paid bureaucrats from their positions of power and replacing them with freely elected delegates (answerable to and recallable by the rank and file) can we begin to build a world worth waking up in. What chance do we have otherwise? The courts are, and always will be, stacked against us. The police serve the courts. The state is openly committed to pounding us into submission. And the union bureaucrats? They're committed to their positions and the status quo (or slightly less).

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the benefits of affiliation with the IWA while relieving any one group of bearing the full responsibilities inherent in that affiliation.

It is my hope that the creation of a unified anarcho-syndicalist movement in the U.S. will allow us to more efficiently deliver our ideas to the working people of this country.

There are problems to overcome of course. The IWW itself has several international branches (Canada, England and Australia come to mind) and these branches will need to enter into discussions with existing IWA Sections (DAM in England and ASF in Australia) or constitute separate national sections themselves where no IWA Section exists (as in the case of Canada). There seems no reason those groups could not maintain their membership in the IWW.

Another problem appeared on the same ballot as the affiliation proposal. This was the proposal for an IWW expression of support for the SAC and the International Labor Conference. The SAC (Swedish

Workers Central Organization) withdrew from the IWA in the late 1950s over disputes with the direction of the International. At the time the SAC had already moved far away from a revolutionary unionist perspective. They had developed a highly paid bureaucracy that was more concerned with getting their share of Sweden's post-war economic boom than pursuing anarcho-syndicalism. Many IWA Sections welcomed their departure from the International, since they were becoming more like a business union than a revolutionary workers formation.

Since that time the SAC has, on several occasions, tried to undermine the IWA and its Sections. This has included support for the "Renovados" splinter group of the Spanish CNT (the Spanish Section of the IWA), a reformist, Trotskyist dominated tendency that tried to usurp the name of the CNT and kept the CNT from receiving payment for property stolen from them by the Franco regime. It is generally thought that the International Labor Conference sponsored by the SAC is de-

ARE YOU DOING ANARCHIST RESEARCH?

If you are, then you might be interested in finding out more about the *Bulletin of Anarchist Research*. This little-known publication (25 pages, usually quarterly) is getting better in quantity and quality by leaps and bounds. It has been published and written for the past four years by members of the **Anarchist Research Group**.

Cost: £4.00 for six issues (£3.00 concession) or £6.00 (overseas air).

Write for more details to
T.V. Cahill, B.A.R.,
Dept. of Politics,
University of Lancaster,
Lancaster LA1 4YL.

signed to lay the foundations for a rival international in opposition to the IWA.

But it is pretty apparent that support for the SAC within the IWW is confined to a tiny but vocal minority, and the actual history of the SAC's activities is not widely known outside of the European anarcho-syndicalist community. It is to be hoped that any friendly overtures made by the IWW to the SAC will be for the purpose of encouraging them to mend their fences and seek reaffiliation with IWA.

These are not insurmountable problems. Comradely discussion and compromise can settle each of them in time. Our commitment to the fight for a free society will carry us beyond minor differences. Discussion and debate are vital to the process of synthesis. We are part of a movement that is evolving every day.

I look forward with undisguised enthusiasm to joining with my comrades in the IWW in federation. Together we can do great things!

Mike Kolhoff

OFFICE WORKERS UPRISING

The organizing campaign of Office Workers United is into its sixth month as this issue of the ALB goes to press. The process has been slow and the progress fluctuating, with expectations being raised, lowered and altered on a regular basis. The situation of office workers is one of isolation. Workers are locked inside glass towers, away from press cameras and the public, where management feels confident in imposing draconian systems of control and using psychological warfare against anyone they chose to label a "troublemaker." Acquiring a "bad attitude" in most offices usually is just a matter of waking up to the reality around you.

For this reason a substantial amount of OWU's energy has involved outreach to workers held captive in those glass towers. This has meant postering and leafleting in the financial district, which can get very interesting at times. I had a silly run-in with an executive type one afternoon. He was busily tearing down OWU fliers as fast as I could put them up. We exchanged harsh words, his basic explanation for his actions being that he was opposed to free speech. He just didn't care for the concept. I had to kick him in the butt and send him scurrying along the sidewalk.

OWU currently has a working draft constitution which outlines our basic organizational structure (revocable delegates and direct democracy) but the document is still in the draft stage and doesn't much apply to our current situation. We are still a very small group in a big city with a huge job to do. A job that, at times, is incredibly frustrating and disheartening. No one can ever realize what a bad name unions have acquired until they get out in the trenches and try to organize. The basic reasons for organization are pretty apparent to anybody, but thanks to the corruption of the business unions people are rightously wary of taking on what has become, in the case of the business unions, a "second boss."

Then there is just the general capriciousness of human beings. Often people will get pissed off over a par-



ticular incident or issue within the workplace, will make noises like they want to organize, and then, when that incident has become ancient history or that issue has been resolved (in whoever's favor) they will lose interest. The idea of a union is a lot more attractive than the gut work involved in building one. This is certainly the most frustrating experience involved in organizing, and it happens regularly. This is a necessary hazard of what is known as "cold organizing," and one of the main reasons many people will tell you that "cold organizing" is impossible. "Cold organizing" is certainly possible, it just requires a hell of a lot of work and is essentially a crap shoot.

In my own place of employment we are organizing a staff association. This arose out of response to several OWU fliers I posted. This looks like a

Go For Sure. I got my fingers and toes crossed anyway (we need a win real bad) but nothing is ever done til it's done. Similar activity is taking place elsewhere. We will, however, not abandon our outreach in the financial district. "Office Workers Uprising," an OWU newsletter, will be out before the end of February (hopefully). We will place copies in restaurants and newstands downtown, and maybe get something moving among the big financial houses.

We haven't even been at this a year yet, and organizing campaigns have been known to take several. We're in it for the whole ride and once we get going there will be no stopping us.

Mike Kolhoff
SF WSA



INTERVIEW WITH THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CNT-AIT

The following interview with CNT General Secretary Jose Luis Garcia Rua was conducted by Juan Carlos Escudier of the Spanish magazine *Diario 16*.

Diario 16: Is the future of the unions, especially the CNT, guaranteed at least in the medium term?

Rua: The unions were created originally as structures to defend workers interests. Therefore, as long as there are workers, as long as there are people who sell their ability to work, structures to defend workers interests are necessary.

With the changes that have taken place, these structures are more necessary than ever before, because although the working class is getting smaller, a subproduct has emerged, a subproletariat, which has to suffer all the negative effects of an economic and social imbalance tilted in favor of the capitalists.

D-16: So, to be able to defend the working class, are mass unions necessary?

Rua: I am convinced that they are. But the unions must be strong in other aspects, not just in size. The union must have strong ideas, must be coherent and must have a conception of the kind of society it is heading towards.

What happens with modern unions is that where there is that strength in size, there is no adequate social aim because they have always been under the thumb of political parties, and have become more and more akin to their political limitations.

In the case of Spain, we can detect certain disillusion over the PSOE's (Spanish Socialist Party) politics, which were announced as an about face from those of the UCD (Social Democratic Party). In truth, the PSOE's politics are the same as the UCD's.

In this kind of situation there is often a swing from left to right, whether it is to catch votes from the center, to be in capitalism's favor, or because capitalism needs social democratic parties.

D-16: Is it not a luxury to maintain a division in the CNT, which is not a

particularly large organization?

Rua: The division was not sought by us. Besides, it is not a division between anarchists, but between people who call themselves anarcho-syndicalists. It is one thing to call yourself something and another to act like it.

When the split first took place there was a desire on the part of the organization to find a way out of the marginalization we had fallen victim to. Some thought that taking part in union elections and works commissions (*comites de empresa*) was not damaging to the principles of the union, and even that it could be a way of getting in touch with the working class and increasing our membership.

Some even fought in the union elections with these beliefs. But the acceptance of delegated action compromised by politics is in conflict with the principle of direct action, which is the main characteristic of anarcho-syndicalism. As direct action is a fundamental characteristic, if the above (participation in the *comites*) is accepted, anarcho-syndicalism is bankrupt.

Others thought, however, that this tactic was not in conflict with anarcho-syndicalist strategies. They said that it was necessary to be in the workplace commissions to discredit them.

Experience has shown us quite the opposite. Wherever the splinter group has gained candidates in the works commissions, in subsequent elections it has got fewer and fewer.

This proved to those in the CNT, who in good faith chose the path of the works commission, that participation does not discredit the works commissions, but in fact ends up swallowing them into its bureaucracy and contaminating their ideals.

Some already appreciate this and think that the works commission should be substituted by some other form of representation, such as the union section (*seccion sindical*), which we propose as an alternative.

D-16: Does this mean that you are not going to ask what is now the CGT to rejoin the CNT?



Rua: We have already asked them. We have publicly asked them to join the organization. We are prepared to forget what has happened in the past and try to understand why they made their mistakes. We are perfectly sincere in calling on them to rejoin the CNT.

But it is one thing calling people to rejoin the CNT and another to abandon our principles. If we accept that any minority that cannot impose its ideas on the majority abandons the organization, tries to usurp the name of the CNT, and at the end of the day, conditions its return by demanding that the reasons for its leaving are accepted, we would destroy the whole principle of organization.

D-16: However, far from being a minority, they seem to constitute a substantial part of Spanish anarcho-syndicalism.

Rua: They are not and have never been a substantial part. And you have to question the idea that they are anarcho-syndicalists. They have rejected the principle of direct action. They have changed their statutes to give executive powers to their committees, while our committees are just for organization and putting resolutions into practice.

As to whether they form the majority or not, the press has either been misled or has consciously been falsely presenting them as such. By referring to the tribunal's records, and to the splinter groups own figures, it is clear that those that took part in a meeting in March 1984 to prepare the so-called "Unification Congress" were 27 unions. And they themselves

have admitted that the number of unions who took part in the 6th Congress (prior to the split) was 214. No matter how you juggle the figures, 27 cannot be a majority.

D-16: Are the words negotiation and agreement excluded from the CNT's vocabulary?

Rua: No, not at all. They are not and never have been. On one of our posters you can see the agreements signed by comrades from the Wood and Cork Union of Malaga and the Metalworkers Union of Seville from 1936 for a 36 hour week. Next to their signatures are those of the bosses.

We do not oppose negotiation. What we are opposed to is negotiation behind workers' backs. They must shape their own future. We adhere to the principle that the workers assembly without a union is blind and that a union with no assembly is empty and useless.

D-16: Is violence an integral part of anarchosindicalist principles?

Rua: No. Direct action and violent action have been confused. Direct action means that everyone should be responsible for their own destiny, that we are against delegating responsibilities to the ballot box and we believe that the individual and the union should fulfill their duties.

The CNT was created in 1910. It came out of the Spanish Regional Workers Federation, and from the Spanish organizations of the First International. It lived through the revolutionary strike of 1917, at the time of the Russian revolution. It lived through the period of the European Workers Councils. The CNT was involved in a revolutionary process.

SNIPERS MURDER UNION MINER IN WEST VIRGINIA

On January 16th company goons, using automatic weapons, ambushed and killed coal miner John McCoy outside the Rolf Mining Company No. 6 mine in McDowell County, West Virginia. Two other miners were wounded in the attack, in which 200 shots were fired.

Union miners have been picketing outside the mine for over a year in an attempt to get the company to pay \$357,000 in hospital bills and medical benefits. The company is a "contract mine", meaning that the owners of the land hire the company to mine the

Shortly afterward the CNT had to face the Primo de Rivera dictatorship. We did not accept what the UGT (Socialist Party Union) did, which was collaborate with the regime. The CNT was declared illegal and naturally had to defend itself.

In 1923 bosses' pistoleros began to emerge. Many were Germans from the First World War, who systematically tried to eliminate anarcho-sindicalists. Pestana was injured and Sequi was killed by them. The fact that the Confederation proceeded to create defence groups against them has nothing to do with any kind of systematic violent action.

In any case, the CNT never concealed its revolutionary goals, nor the fact that we want the total emancipation of the working class and the creation of Libertarian Communism.

The 8-hour day only came to Spain due to the CNT. People also forget it was the CNT that got the five and a half day week. In the countryside, and especially in Andalusia, we managed to get a five hour day in 1936.

D-16: Has not the structure of the working class changed so much that new forms of unionism are necessary?

Rua: It is clear that the working class of today is not the working class of 50 years ago. It is also clear that the unemployed of today do not go around in clogs eating crumbs, but we can say that today's worker is even more exploited, since exploitation is judged by the value of production and by the relationship between necessary work and what is actually done.

The use of the machine meant that

coal. Once the company has extracted sufficient profit from the land they declare bankruptcy, leaving the miners without pay or legal recourse. The United Mine Workers were in negotiations with the landowners when the attack occurred.

To send messages of solidarity and support write: International Office, UMW Region 3, 4500 MacCorkle Avenue SE, Charleston, W. VA. 25304

the working day would always be getting shorter. The fact that working conditions change does not mean that exploitation ceases to exist.

D-16: Does that justify the CNT using the same methods now as in the past?

Rua: No, what we have is uncompromisable principles: personal dignity, individual freedom, direct action, solidarity, federalism, autonomy. They are valid principles for any society. But we are very conscious of workers' sensibility and we orientate toward them.

D-16: Those who criticise the CNT-AIT say that it is a union that will die out because its members will die out. What is the average age of CNT members?

Rua: We have between 50,000 and 60,000 members. Obviously those who were in the war have died or are dying. It is typical to talk of the CNT as an old people's union. But we respect our old people. They are admirable and have not sold themselves. They have been to prison, in concentration camps and even now, at 70 or 80, are young at heart. But they do not decide in our organization. The average age in the CNT is approximately 30.

From Diario 16, 4/17/89

Translated by Richard Salford
Manchester DAM-AIT

MAYDAY 1990

What are you doing for May Day 1990? Here in SF the IWW and WSA have begun plans to celebrate May Day in a big way this year. Current proposals are for a picnic and celebration with food and fun on April 29th (location as yet undesignated) with a "sick-out" and demo on May 1st (target as yet unspecified). If you are at all interested in helping us on this project, get in touch! Comrades in other localities are asked to send us notice of what you're doing for May Day (and let's all try to do something). Our goal is to return May Day to it's anarchist unionist roots. Maybe we can look back on May Day 1990 as the start of something BIG!

Czechoslovakian Anarchists Organize

Czechoslovakia has just seen its first open anarchist organization in many years. We received this text, the founding statement of the Czechoslovak Anarchist Union (CAS) in the mail.

We, Anarchists living in Czechoslovakia, have decided this 10th of October 1989 to make public the CAS (Ceskoslovenske Anarchisticke Sdruzeni) which will make a free reference to the activity of the CAF (Ceska Anarchisticka Federace) constituted 85 years ago.

The CAS is the free and open union of those who have chosen the anarchist movement. It aims to integrate all the anarchists you can get in touch with among all the professions and social levels. The CAS has to insist on the efficiency of the movement, and to

provide it a more normal development, so that its influence on our milieu will be clearer than up to now. The CAS is a union of people for whom the new and free society working on the basis of free association, the anarchist society, is the ultimate goal, even though this can seem unrealistic.

Thus the CAS recognizes as its most important goals: 1) to try to organize free groups, to make possible contacts and collaboration between individuals, and to support individual initiative and solidarity as the two most important elements of every sane social life. 2) to support the information and education activity, as well as to gather anarchist literature, theoretical and for propaganda, for the support of our movement. 3) to support every antimilitarist or antinationalist movement. 4) as a branch of the inter-

national movement, to link contacts between anarchists from other borders. 5) to support every information and formation activity. 6) to take a clear position against terrorism.

Nevertheless, these goals are far from being the only ones, for in any case they cannot limit individual initiative. The CAS appeals to all groups and associations to pay more attention to the intelligence, to the anarchist consciousness and to the seriousness of their activists, rather than to their number. We keep the right to refuse entry into our union to anybody who wouldn't enjoy the trust of our activists.

SUPPORT CHINESE W.A.F

Despite the lifting of martial law in the People's Republic of China, the oppression of workers and other dissidents continues unabated. The actual fate of many of those arrested after Tianamen Square is still unknown. They have, for all intents and purposes, disappeared from the face of the earth. Workers Solidarity Alliance has begun a letter writing campaign to try and remind the despots of the Chinese ruling elite that there are many of us who still support the valiant members of the Workers Autonomous Federation, many of whom have already been murdered at the hands of the "People's Executioners." WSA is asking comrades to send letters to addresses below demanding the release of the following workers whose names we know (please include all names):

Liu Quiang, Liu Huanwen, Bai Dongping, Tian Bomin, Guo Yaxiong, Li Jiang, You Diangi, Yan Fuqian, He Zhaohui, Li Jian, Liu Xingqi, Lu Zhaixing, Yang Xiong, Zhang Xudong, Zhou Yong, Gao Jingtang, Li Xiaohu, Zhu Guanghua, Che Honglian, Hao Jingguang, Liu Yubin, Shao Liangehen, Zhang Xinchao, Li Huling, Rui Tonghu, Zhu

Huiming, Cai Chaojun, Chen Shengfu, Gong Chencheng, Li Zhibo, Wang Hong, Wang Miaogen, Zhang Renfu, Zhang Qiwan, Zheng Liang, An Baojing, Bao Hongjian, Chang Ximin, Liu Chongshu, Ren Xiyang, Xu Ying, Zhao Demin.

Send letters to:
Premier Zhongguo Guowu Yuan
Beijing, PRC

President Yang Shangkun
Zhongguo Guoji Zhuxi Banshichu
Beijing, PRC
Ni Zhifu
Chairman
All China Federation
of Trade Unions
Beijing, PRC
FAX: (86-1) 801-2933



EVENTS

FEBRUARY 18th

Bay Area Coalition Against Operation Rescue clinic defense training. 1-3pm, lower end of Dolores Park where 19th St. ends, SF. Call 626-5510 for more details.

FEBRUARY 22nd

Planning meeting for May Day celebrations in the Bay Area. 4426 20th Street, SF. 8pm.

MARCH 2nd

IMWU-sponsored "Koncentration Kamp Tour" with *Crime, Happy World, Morbid Life Society*, and more! \$7, 8pm at Rendezvous, 60 6th St (at Market) in SF.

MARCH 19th

"Chico Mendes: Voice of the Amazon". Documentary of the life of environmental activist and Brazilian Rubber Tappers Union organizer. Roxie Cinema, 7:15 and 9:00. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia) 863-1087

MARCH 29th-APRIL 1st

First International Eco-City Conference. Sponsored by Urban Ecology, to be held in downtown Berkeley. Focus will be on how to build cities in balance with nature as well as human needs. Registration fee \$160 (!) \$80 for students. For more info contact Urban Ecology, POB 10144, Berkeley, CA. 94709

Cops Kill Anti-Fascist

(WEST GERMANY) Gottingen police have attacked an anti-fascist demonstration, murdering a woman participant, on November 17. The demonstration was the result of numerous violent incidents provoked by fascists during recent days, culminating in a battle between skinheads and anti-fascists on the evening of the 17th. Police intervened, escorted the skinheads to safety and began to hunt down the anti-fascists, sealing street exits to prevent their escape. One cop was overheard on police radio obtaining permission to beat up the prisoners. The cops then attacked with tear gas, dogs and truncheons.

Anarchist Labor Bulletin is a monthly newsbulletin of the Anarchist Labor Network, formed at the 1989 Anarchist Conference in San Francisco. The purpose of the network is to facilitate communication and cooperation among anarchist unionists in North America and elsewhere.

Subscriptions to the Anarchist Labor Bulletin:

12 issues: \$10.00

6 issues: \$ 6.00

Incendiary Publications

PO Box 210095

San Francisco, CA 94121-0095

Anarchist Media Raided

Italian police have raided the homes of anarchists in various towns 5-12-89, particularly those involved in producing the papers *ProvocAzione* and *Anarchismo*, seizing a large part of the material planned for their next issues and subscription lists. The papers have vowed to continue publishing information that the state is trying to suppress. (Milan editorial group of *ProvocAzione*.)

A Case of Mistaken Identity

When a Shell filling station in the small Swedish town of Vaxjo was vandalized as a protest against Shell's involvement in South Africa 22-5-88, a 55-year-old engineer saw two people doing it and called the police. Two people were arrested, and tried in September, 1989. They said that they didn't do the action, but sympathized with it because of Shell's involvement in South Africa. The witness said that he, in 1988, had no idea of Shell's role in South Africa, and would not have called the police if he had. Although he had identified the two accused a year earlier, he couldn't verify this identification at the trial and ended his statement by expressing his support to the activists! The suspects were let go...

One of the anti-fascists, Conny Weissmann, broke through the blockade and was killed when she ran in front of a passing car on a busy main street. All attempts made to help her were prevented by the police, and when the ambulance arrived she was dead.

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